

Poised for power

The Kingdom of God and you.

- Series preached on the Kingdom of God. Where the revelation of our position in a Kingdom on the Kings business is somewhat different to us being a good member of a church.
- Ian and larger nets.
- Koen and expand to the SC cities.

We are poised for power. We have with the opportunity with the power of the Holy Spirit to transform this community.

Our priorities are crucial.

How we relate to someone or something is crucial. Priorities are described by our relationships. How we relate to our spouses, children, parents, work, cars, school, sport..... and he Lord will determine everything about our lives.

Jesus is absolutely unapologetic about our relationship with Him. He places us right at the top of His priority list.

³ *“You shall have no other gods before me.* ⁴ *“You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.....I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, Exodus 20*

v6 “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14

I sometimes wonder why we have become so powerless, I have become absolutely convinced that it is because of our priorities. The order of importance we give to the important things in our lives.

You see all of us want to go to heaven. There is the inevitability about death that is at the back of all of our minds. So we want the

assurance of salvation without paying the price of obedience so we come to church.

“If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”²⁴ He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. John 14

Love → obedience → presence of the Lord → assurance of salvation

When we get our priorities right the power of God becomes evident.

Priority of love is obedience.

I have etched on my mind the dramatic similarities between the lost son and us. He is the epitome of disobedience. He takes all His goods and inheritance to be extravagantly disobedient. Listen to the Father’s perspective:

Luke 15²⁰ So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.’²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate.²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

“What is it Dave that I must be obedient with?” you might say.

“I don’t lie, steal, commit adultery, worship false Gods you might say. I believe that there is only one God. Where is my disobedience?”

James 2 ..faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.¹⁹ You

believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

God's desire is to see us, His children, fulfilling the mission of His sending.

The first step to POWER is the PRIORITY of OBEDIENCE.

His mission was to restore the rulership, through relationship of the Father on the earth.

The “lost” is God’s mission.

Jesus came to “seek and save the lost”.

Jesus sent his disciples out two by two to preach the Kingdom of God to the lost.

As His last will and testament He commissioned his disciples to:

*Matt 28 ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ **and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.***

Discipleship is not coming to church and engaging in a discipleship class or program. The first step of discipleship is engaging those who don't know Him, like Jesus did.

It works like this:

1. Love those who don't know Him.
2. Pray for them daily.
3. Make a point of engaging with them.
4. Serve them.
5. Be a credible witness to them.
6. Commit to laying the right foundations in their lives when they surrender to Christ.

gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

¹⁵ These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you. Titus 2

Group notes

Ice breaker.

1. What is your worst memory of you being disobedient as a child?
2. What is the most exciting memory you have of sharing some exciting news with someone and how did you feel at their response?

What's the Word on it?

Luke 12:35-48; John 4:34-38; James 2:18-26.

Most things that are worthwhile in life have a price attached to them. As the saying goes, nothing is free. Well, in the Kingdom of God it is the same. Our salvation came at a huge price, Jesus did the paying and we were the free beneficiaries. After He went to our accuser and bought our freedom our lives belong to Him. We could still have been in captivity and in chains but we are free. However we are not free to go back into captivity, we have been saved by our King, the one who has a mission in mind for us. We need to give up our independence and selfishness and join His mission. What is His mission and how do we join?

Questions for the group.

1. What is your priority list?
2. What is the real food we need to give people, besides taking care of physical needs where we can?
3. Who is the faithful and wise manager, what is he/she to do ?
4. Who will you share your faith with this week?
5. What is the Lord telling you to do?

Prayer

Let us be repentant because of our disobedience to be the salt and light and "hide ourselves" from the world.

Ask the Lord to impart His love for the lost to you as you step out in obedience. Pray for each other and hold one another accountable for the 6 points of action mentioned in the sermon notes.